400 West 153rd Street
New York City
February 6, 1931

Dean E.J. Wiley
Middlebury College
Middlebury, Vermont

Dear Dean,

For the last two years I have been an assistant professor of American literature at Howard University in Washington, D.C. At the end of the last summer session I requested and received a leave of absence to last until I shall have finished my Ph.D. requirements at Columbia.

I have already fulfilled some of the requirements, but I will need to study another year. Having a mother and wife to support I will quite naturally need financial aid. To accomplish that end I am today asking trustees M.Allen Starr, Allen H. Nelson, and John Weeks to recommend me to the General Education Board and to the Julius Rosenwald Foundation, located respectively in New York City and Chicago, for a fellowship.

I would be very grateful if you will recommend me to Secretary W.W. Brierley of the General Education Board and to Edwin R. Embree of the Rosenwald Foundation. Although the above mentioned trustees do not know me personally, I feel sure that a letter from you would cause them to perform this valuable service in my behalf.

check with Registrar

Knowing how difficult it is to remember the record of an ever-increasing number of alumni, I am here adding these items: M.A. and B.A. from Middlebury; cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Honors in English, and Honors in Philosophy; one year of graduate work at Columbia.

Professor F.A. Patterson can testify to the quality of my work at Columbia; and Professor C.E. Burch, chairman of the English Department at Howard, will be glad to inform you of my work as a teacher. Prof. Burch is now on leave at Ohio State University, Box 3079, Columbus, Ohio.

Inasmuch as my letters of recommendation must be received before March First, I will appreciate whatever expedition you can give to this matter.

To you and Middlebury I send my very best wishes.

Very sincerely yours,

Emile Trevelle Holley